

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended)

An isolated polynucleotide containing ~~a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:~~

- ~~a)~~ a polynucleotide having at least 50% similarity with a polynucleotide coding for a polypeptide having the function of transcription factor and having an amino acid sequence of sequence SEQ ID No: 3.
- ~~b)~~ a complementary polynucleotide of polynucleotide a) and
- ~~c)~~ a polynucleotide comprising at least 15 consecutive bases of the polynucleotide defined in a) or b).

Claim 2 (previously presented)

A polynucleotide according to claim 1 in that this polynucleotide is a DNA.

Claim 3 (previously presented)

A polynucleotide according to claim 1 in that this polynucleotide is a RNA.

Claim 4 (previously presented)

A polynucleotide as defined in claim 2 comprising the nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No: 1.

Claim 5 (currently amended)

A DNA sequence ~~as defined in claim 1 wherein this~~ according to claim 2 having the DNA sequence is that of the CATFIIIA gene coding for a protein having the biological function of transcription factor of Candida albicans CATIIIA containing the nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No: 1 2.

Claim 6 (currently amended)

A DNA sequence according to claim 5 2 having the sequence starting at nucleotide 720 and finishing at nucleotide 1955 of SEQ ID No: 1.

Claim 7 (currently amended)

A DNA ~~sequence of the CATFIIIA gene~~ according to claim 5 coding for the amino acid sequence SEQ ID No: 3 (~~413 amino acids~~).

Claim 8 (currently amended)

A DNA ~~sequence coding for the transcription factor CATFIIIA according to claim 5 and DNA sequences which hybridize~~ hybridizes with a DNA according to claim 5 and coding for a protein the sequence and/or have a significant homology with this sequence of fragments of it and having the same function.

Claim 9 (currently amended)

A DNA ~~sequence according to claim 5~~ comprising modifications introduced by deletion, insertion and/or substitution of at least one nucleotide in the DNA according to claim 5 and coding for a protein having the same biological activity as the transcription factor CATFIIIA.

Claim 10 (currently amended)

A DNA ~~sequence according to claim 5 as well as the and~~ DNA sequences which have has a nucleotide sequence homology of at least 50% with ~~the said a~~ a DNA sequence according to claim 5.

Claim 11 (currently amended)

A DNA ~~sequence according to claim 5 as well as the and a~~ DNA sequence which ~~code~~ codes for a protein, ~~with a similar function as the amino-acids~~ acid sequence of which has a an homology of at least 50%, and a similar function with the ~~ammon~~ protein having an amino acid sequence coded by the said DNA sequence SEQ ID No: 3.

Claim 12 (cancelled)

Claim 13 (currently amended)

A process for the preparation of the recombinant protein CATFIIIA having the amino acid sequence SEQ ID No: 3 comprising expression of the DNA sequence according to claim 5 7 in a host, then isolation and purification of said recombinant protein.

Claim 14 (currently amended)

An expression vector containing the DNA sequence according to claim 5 7.

Claim 15 (previously presented)

A host cell transformed with a vector according to claim 14.

Claim 16 (previously presented)

The process of claim 13 wherein the host cell is DH5 alpha E.coli or XL1-Blue E.coli.

Claim 17 (previously presented)

The process of claim 13 wherein the host cell is *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*.

Claim 18 (currently amended)

The plasmid deposited at the Collection Nationale de Cultures de Microorganismes CNCM at Institut Pasteur under the number I-2072.

Claims 19- 26 (cancelled)

Claim 27 (currently amended)

Kit A kit for the diagnosis of fungal infections comprising a DNA sequence as defined in claim 5 or a functional fragment of this sequence, the polypeptide coded by this sequence or a polypeptide fragment having the same function or an antibody directed against such a polypeptide coded by this DNA sequence or against a fragment of this polypeptide. .

Claims 28-31 (cancelled)